

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 LAGOS 09521 222035Z  
ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 SS-15 SSO-00 IOE-00 /040 W  
-----006430 222043Z /66

O 221848Z AUG 77  
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0000  
INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L LAGOS 9521

FOR IO - MAYNES AND AF - HARROP FROM MCHENRY

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PORG, US, UN, SF, WA  
SUBJECT: THE NEED FOR SENSITIVITY IN BRIEFING AFRICAN LEADERS

REF: (A) LUSAKA 2484, (B) LUSAKA 2485

1. REFTEL (A) REPORTS THE BRIEFING OF PRESIDENT KAUNDA ON NAMIBIA BY LUSAKA CONTACT GROUP PRIOR TO HIS DEPARTURE FOR LAGOS CONFERENCE. ACCORDING TO STEVE LOW, KAUNDA WAS EXTREMELY IRRITATED BY PRESENTATION OF UK HIGH COMMISSIONER MILES. THIS UNFORTUNATE INCIDENT POINTS UP THE ABSOLUTE NECESSITY FOR US AND PARTICULARLY OUR AMBASSADORS IN THE FRONT LINE COUNTRIES TO BE SENSITIVE TO THE PERSONALTIES INVOLVED IN AND THE MANNER OF OUR PRESENTATIONS ON SOUTHERN AFRICAN ISSUES. YOU ARE WELL AWARE THAT THE INCIDENT IN LUSAKA ON SUNDAY WAS NOT THE FIRST IN WHICH THE AFRICANS WERE ANNOYED. YOU WILL RECALL THE ADVERSE IMPACT OF FRENCH AMBASSADOR THIBAUT'S BREIFING OF THE ANGOLANS FOLLOWING THE SECOND ROUND OF CAPE TOWN TALKS.

2. I BELIEVE IT WOULD BE APPROPRIATE IF THE DEPARTMENT WOULD PROVIDE SOME GUIDANCE TO OUR AMBASSADORS IN THE FRONT LINE STATES (AND PERHAPS ELSEWHERE, AT YOUR DISCRETION) STRESSING THE NEED FOR SENSITIVITY IN CONVEYING OUR VIEWS TO THE HOST GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS. AS THE LUSAKA INCIDENT SHOWS, THE PRESENTATION  
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DEFINITELY AFFECTED THE SUBSTANTIVE IMPACT OF THE MEETING. WE NEED TO IMPRESS ON OUR AMBASSADORS THE NEED TO WORK ADROITLY WITHIN THEIR RESPECTIVE CONTACT GROUP TO ASSURE THAT THEIR BEST REPRESENTATIVE HANDLES THE GROUP'S BRIEFING AND THAT THE PRESENTATION IS MADE IN AS EFFECTIVE A WAY AS POSSIBLE.

3. I WOULD APPRECIATE RECEIVING ANY REACTION OR COMMENTS YOU

MIGHT HAVE TO THESE THOUGHTS.

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** GOVERNMENT REACTIONS, DIPLOMATIC REPRESENTATIONS, AMBASSADORS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 22-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977LAGOS09521  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770303-0070  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 77 LUSAKA 2484, 77 LUSAKA 2485  
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**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
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**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
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**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** THE NEED FOR SENSITIVITY IN BRIEFING AFRICAN LEADERS  
**TAGS:** PORG, PDEV, US, SF, WA, UN, (KAUNDA, KENNETH DAVID)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
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**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009